The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles

Parole Guidelines
Annual Report
FY 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles is to perform its duties as imposed by Article 4, Section 11, of the Texas Constitution and:

- Determine which prisoners are to be released on parole or discretionary mandatory supervision;

- Determine conditions of parole and mandatory supervision;

- Determine revocation of parole and mandatory supervision; and

- Recommend the resolution of clemency matters to the Governor.

VISION STATEMENT

The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles, guided by sound application of the discretionary authority vested by the Constitution of the State of Texas, shall:

- Render just determination in regard to parole release and revocations, thereby maximizing the restoration of human potential while restraining the growth of prison and jail populations;

- Impose reasonable and prudent conditions of release consistent with the goal of structured reintegration of the releasee into the community; and

- Resolutely administer the clemency process with recommendations to the Governor fully commensurate with public safety and due consideration.

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Section 508.1445, Government Code, the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles (Board) annually shall submit a report to the Criminal Justice Legislative Oversight Committee, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the presiding officers of the standing committees in the Senate and House of Representatives primarily responsible for criminal justice regarding the Board's application of the Parole Guidelines adopted under Section 508.144.

The information in this report was obtained from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice who is responsible for maintaining and providing statistical information relating to parole and mandatory supervision pursuant to Government Code Section 508.313(b).

Board Rule 145.2 Standard Parole Guidelines:

(a) The parole panels are vested with complete discretion in making parole decisions to accomplish the mandatory duties found in Chapter 508, Government Code.

(b) Parole guidelines have been adopted by the Board to assist parole panels in the selection of possible candidates for release. Parole guidelines are applied as a basis, but not as the exclusive criteria, upon which parole panels base release decisions.

   (1) The parole guidelines consist of a risk assessment instrument and an offense severity scale. Combined, these components serve as an instrument to guide parole release decisions.

   (2) The risk assessment instrument includes two sets of components, static and dynamic factors.

      (A) Static factors include:

         (i) Age at first admission to a juvenile or adult correctional facility;

         (ii) History of supervisory release revocations for felony offenses;

         (iii) Prior incarcerations;

         (iv) Employment history; and

         (v) The commitment offense.

      (B) Dynamic factors include:

         (i) The offender's current age;

         (ii) Whether the offender is a confirmed security threat group (gang) member;

         (iii) Education, vocational and certified on-the-job training programs completed during the present incarceration;

         (iv) Prison disciplinary conduct; and

         (v) Current prison custody level.

   (3) Scores from the risk assessment instrument are combined with an offense severity rating for the sentenced offense of record to determine a parole candidate's guidelines level.

(c) The adoption and use of the parole guidelines does not imply the creation of any parole release formula, or a right or expectation by an offender to parole based upon the guidelines. The risk assessment instrument and the offense severity scale, while utilized for research and reporting, are not to be construed so as to mandate either a favorable or unfavorable parole decision. The parole guidelines serve as an aid in the parole decision process and the parole decision shall be at the discretion of the Board and the voting parole panel.

(d) The Board is authorized to revise the parole guidelines as warranted.

The Board guidelines combine a research-based risk assessment of the offender with a measurement of the severity of the offense. The risk assessment measures the likelihood of an offender to have a successful parole. It uses both an offender's historical (Static) information and current (Dynamic)

The assessed level of risk combines with the offense severity ranking to create a Parole Guidelines Score. The score ranges from 1, for an individual with the poorest probability of success, to 7, for an offender with the greatest probability of success.

While the Board seeks to maximize the state's ability to restore human potential to society through the granting of parole, its first priority is always public safety.

The range of Recommended Parole Approval Rates utilized by the Board in this Annual Report was developed by a consultant to the Board in 2001. The range of Recommended Parole Approval Rates were established to monitor its compliance for each category or score within the guidelines.

The Board realizes individual voter and aggregate release decisions may not fall within the Recommended Parole Approval Range. The following explanations are provided for the variations that exist between the Actual Parole Approval Rates for individual parole panel members, regional offices, and the state as a whole, and the range of Recommended Parole Approval Rates.

Board Members and Parole Commissioners vote cases on a daily basis; therefore, at the time of the parole panel member's vote, the current monthly aggregate total by approval rates are not available to them. Additionally, the Parole Guidelines are only one of the tools utilized by the parole panel members when making individual offender discretionary decisions. Other factors the panel members consider include: information from victims and trial officials, judges, district attorneys, sheriffs and police chiefs, the nature of the specific offense, support information, and offenders with short sentences which limit the voting options for placement into a rehabilitative program.

The seven Board offices are primarily situated near high density prison populations. As such, certain units often house a specific type of offender. For example, the Gatesville area houses female offenders, thus the Gatesville Board office votes a higher percentage of female offenders than other Board offices. Other units may house less violent offenders or offenders with shorter sentences. Such differences in unit populations impact the approval percentages of each Board office, so particular attention is warranted when comparing regional approval rates.

HISTORY OF TEXAS
PAROLE GUIDELINES

Prior to 1983, the Board used Salient and Significant Factor Score Sheets when making parole decisions. The Salient Factor Score sought to classify parole candidates according to the likelihood for succeeding under parole supervision. The Significant Factor Score reflected the seriousness of the offense committed.

In 1983, the Board adopted the PABLO Scale to aid members in applying similar criteria to parole decisions. The scale calculated the risk of releasing an offender by evaluating the offender's rating on 20 variables, which included criminal history, juvenile history, substance abuse history, age at the time of the offense, education, etc.

In 1985, the Legislature mandated that the Board incorporate Parole Guidelines, with minimum release criteria, into parole decision-making. Based on research, the Parole Guidelines were to consider the seriousness of the offense and the likelihood of a favorable parole outcome.

In 1987, the Board combined the PABLO Scale with Parole Guidelines that measured parole risks to set a parole risk score.

The risk factors consisted of nine variables shown to be associated with recidivism (number of prior convictions, number of prior incarcerations, age at first incarceration, commitment offense, number of prior parole or probation violations, history of alcohol/drug dependence, employment history, level of education, and release plan).

The offender's most severe current offense was assigned one of four severity levels (highest, high, medium, and low). Time served was used to adjust the risk and offense severity score. Based on the score, the Board would set a tentative parole date that still could be overridden by the Board at its discretion. However, the reasons for overrides had to conform to a limited set of factors established by the Board.

In 1993, the 73rd Legislature directed the Criminal Justice Policy Council (CJPC) to report "at least annually to the Legislative Criminal Justice Board, the Texas Board of Criminal Justice and the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles on the use of the Parole Guidelines by each member of the Board in making parole decisions."

In 1996, after conducting a study of guideline usage, CJPC recommended revised guidelines be developed to ensure that the criteria reflect Board policy, to apply the guidelines in a consistent manner to all candidates for parole (reliable), and to predict the risk to public safety (valid).

Reliability is a measure of the consistency of Institutional Parole Officers (IPOs) in extracting and presenting the same data to the Board for consideration in parole decisions. Validity is a measure of risk factors to accurately predict whether a candidate is a good, moderate, or poor risk to succeed on parole. Parole Guidelines accomplish these two objectives by developing scoring instruments that use well-defined measures of risk that correlate with post-release success.

In 1998, the Board applied to the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) for technical assistance in developing revised Parole Guidelines that would provide both reliability and validity.

After agreeing to an initial site visit and assessment, NIC reported, "...to simply update existing guidelines will not increase the viability or effectiveness of the Board's case decision making and would not bring Texas in line with new approaches that have been successful in other jurisdictions. A fundamental re-examination and redesign is required."

In 1999, the Board contracted with Security Response Technologies, Inc. (SRT, Inc.), an 18-month, three-phase project:

- Phase I - A comprehensive review of the Board's current practices as well as those of other states in using Parole Guidelines.

- Phase II - A validation test of existing guidelines, along with an evaluation of other selected factors to be used in assessing risk.

- Phase III - Training of Board Members, Parole Commissioners, and IPOs in using the new guidelines.

On January 18, 2001, the Policy Board adopted the assessment and design of the new Parole Guidelines as submitted by SRT, Inc.

On July 1, 2001, the IPOs began calculating a Parole Guidelines Score for each eligible offender using the new guidelines.

On September 1, 2001, the Board panels began using the new Parole Guidelines to assist in making parole decisions.

The Board continued to assess and review the guidelines through its Parole Guidelines Committee.

On May 15, 2006, the Board requested a voting pattern analysis on DWI offender cases. Dr. James Austin, NIC consultant, presented a report based on data re-validating the Board's Parole Guidelines and risk analysis.

On January 29, 2009, the Board adopted Dr. Austin's report, modifying and updating the Parole Guidelines. Additionally, he revised instructions for completing the risk assessment, created a new Supplemental DWI Risk Assessment Factors and Scale, and trained staff.

In 2010, the Board selected MGT of America, Inc., to conduct research and provide recommendations for updating the Parole Guidelines.

The 18-month initiative researched data on domestic violence, gender (female) differences, and security threat group considerations.

In 2012, the consultant conducted research and provided recommendations for updating the Parole Guidelines. The consultant recommended no changes in factors involving domestic violence and security threat groups but did recommend a change to separate risk scales by gender, which the Board adopted.

On January 16, 2014, Dr. Austin presented a report based on data re-validation of the Board's Parole Guideline Levels. Based on Dr. Austin's report and recommendations, in June 2014, the Chair requested technical assistance from the Bureau of Justice (BOJ) National Training and Technical Center. The BOJ awarded the Board a grant for technical assistance involving the Board's Parole Guidelines in October 2014. Dr. Austin began working with the Board in December 2014 to examine and suggest modifications as appropriate to the Board's estimated Approval Rates and Parole Guideline Levels.

On April 16, 2015, the Board partnered with a consultant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance and adopted a new range of Recommended Parole Approval Rates. The adjustments were made based on new data and evidence-based practices that have emerged since the initial range of Recommended Parole Approval Rates were established in 2001. In addition and based upon research, a recommendation was also made to change the final guideline level from 4 to 3 in the "High" Risk, "Moderate" Offense Severity position of the Matrix. With implementation of these changes, the Board anticipates individual votes and aggregate release decisions will fall between the new ranges and the variations between Actual Parole Approval Rates and Recommended Parole Approval Rates will decrease.

Periodically, various new custody level codes are added to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Classification and Records system. The result of adding these new codes affects the "Custody Level Conversion Chart" the IPOs use to calculate the Overall Parole Guidelines Score. As new codes were added during 2016, programming was and will be in the future completed and implemented as necessary.

COMPONENTS OF THE GUIDELINES

The Parole Guidelines consist of two major components that interact to provide a single score. The first is a Risk Assessment Instrument that weighs both static and dynamic factors associated with the offender's record. The second component is Offense Severity Class.

RISK ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT

Static factors come from the offender's prior criminal record, which do not change over time.

Static factors include:

- Age at first commitment to a juvenile or adult correctional facility;

- History of supervisory release revocations for felony offenses;

- Prior incarcerations;

- Employment history; and

- The commitment offense.

Dynamic factors reflect characteristics the offender has demonstrated since being incarcerated and can change over time.

Dynamic factors include:

- Current age;

- Whether the offender is a confirmed security threat group (gang) member;

- Education, vocational, and certified on-the-job training programs completed during the present incarceration;

- Prison disciplinary conduct; and

- Current prison custody level.

An offender receives 0-10 points on Static Factors and 0-9 points on Dynamic Factors. A low score is associated with low risk. The higher the score, the greater the risk in granting parole.

As a result of the re-validation study completed in 2012, it was determined that a separate risk scale for males and females was necessary.

SCORE ASSIGNED RISK LEVEL		
Based on total of Static and Dynamic Factor points, risk level assigned to		
Offense Severity Class	MALE (POINTS)	FEMALE (POINTS)
Low Risk	3 or less	3 or less
Moderate Risk	4-8	4-9
High Risk	9-15	10+
Highest Risk	16+	N/A

OFFENSE SEVERITY CLASS

The Board has assigned an Offense Severity Ranking to each of the felony offenses in the statute.

Offense Severity Classes range from Low, for non-violent crimes such as credit card abuse, to Highest, for capital murder. If an offender is incarcerated for more than one offense, the most serious active offense is assigned an Offense Severity Class identified by the established list.

The Board's Parole Guidelines Committee continually reviews current offenses for possible reranking and new offenses for appropriate ranking.

THE PAROLE GUIDELINES SCORE

The two components of the guidelines – Risk Assessment and Offense Severity – are merged into a matrix that creates the offender's Parole Guidelines Score (at the intersection of risk level and offense severity in the diagrams below). Separate risk scales have been developed for male and female offenders.

Parole Guidelines Scores range from 1, for an individual with the poorest probability of success, to 7, for an offender with the greatest probability of success.

The guidelines are not automatic nor is the Parole Guideline Score presumptive of whether an offender will be paroled. Parole panel members retain the discretion to vote outside the guidelines when circumstances of an individual case merit doing so.

Offense Severity Class	MALE RISK LEVEL				FEMALE RISK LEVEL		
	Highest (16)	High (9-15)	Moderate (4-8)	Low (3 or less)	High (10+)	Moderate (4-9)	Low (3 or less)
Highest	1	2	2	3	2	2	3
High	2	3	4	4	3	4	4
Moderate	2	3	5	6	3	5	6
Low	3	4	6	7	4	6	7

ACTUAL APPROVAL RATES FY 2018

GUIDELINES LEVEL STATEWIDE

GUIDELINE LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	1	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	5,684	1,494	26.28%	15% - 35%
3	6,001	1,823	30.38%	25% - 40%
4	29,203	7,764	26.59%	30% - 45%
5	22,727	7,272	32.00%	35% - 50%
6	14,136	6,376	45.10%	45% - 70%
7	2,736	1,830	66.89%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	80,488	26,559	33.00%	

(Total Parole Considerations in FY 2018 were 80,495 with 7 MRIS cases considered and approved without a guidelines score)

Board Members and Parole Commissioners vote cases daily. A report is generated on a monthly basis, reflecting the range of recommended approval rates by guideline level. It is important to note that the panel members are unaware of the aggregate approval rates during the voting process, which means they are unable to determine if the vote is within the range of recommended approval rates. The parole panel members provide approval and denial reasons for all votes.

A Notice of Parole Panel Action letter is generated with a detailed written statement explaining the denial reason(s) specific to each case. The IPO delivers a copy of the notice to the offender.

It should be noted the approval rates for Parole Guideline Levels 4 (26.59%) and 5 (32.00%) were slightly below the recommended approval rates of 30% and 35%, respectively. The maximum difference was less than 4%. The Board is contiunually evaluating the severity of offenses and making adjustments as deemed appropriate.

On a monthly basis, parole panel members are provided statistical information regarding their votes for each guideline level so they may compare their approval rates to the recommended approval rates. However, as previously noted with this report, panel members consider other factors in addition to a parole guidelines score, which may impact approval scores for each guideline score.

APPROVAL RATE BY GUIDELINE LEVEL

Guideline Level	Approval Rate
1	0.00%
2	26.28%
3	30.38%
4	26.59%
5	32.00%
6	45.10%
7	66.89%
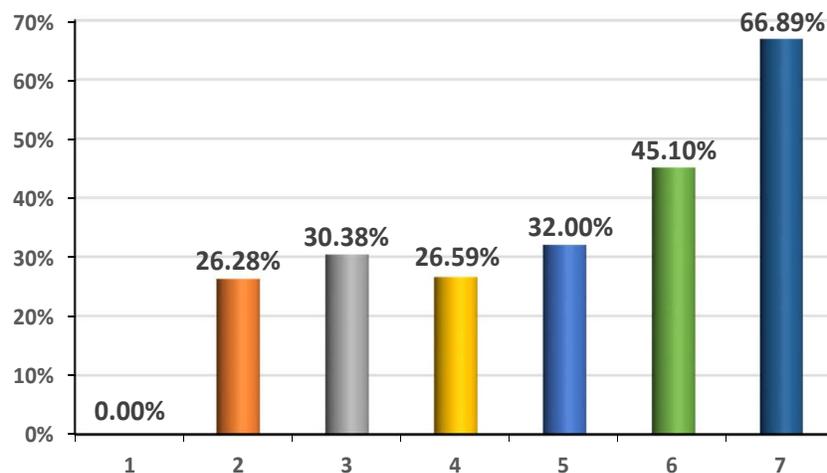
GUIDELINES LEVEL
BY BOARD MEMBER/PAROLE COMMISSIONER
GROUPED BY BOARD OFFICE

The statutory requirements to report Parole Guidelines votes by regional offices are displayed in the following charts grouped by Board office.

Vacancies and new parole panel voters are noted in footnotes. Occasionally a Board Member or Parole Commissioner is out of the office for an extended period of time and a panel member from another office will vote cases in their absence.

AMARILLO BOARD OFFICE

James LaFavers, Board Member

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	1,163	472	40.58%	15% - 35%
3	1,690	897	53.08%	25% - 40%
4	3,638	1,382	37.99%	30% - 45%
5	1,971	643	32.62%	35% - 50%
6	1,091	436	39.96%	45% - 70%
7	184	92	50.00%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	9,737	3,922	40.28%	

Marsha Moberley, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	702	189	26.92%	15% - 35%
3	589	170	28.86%	25% - 40%
4	2,867	852	29.72%	30% - 45%
5	1,932	746	38.61%	35% - 50%
6	1,040	535	51.44%	45% - 70%
7	174	118	67.82%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	7,304	2,610	35.73%	

Raymond Gonzalez, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	720	220	30.56%	15% - 35%
3	610	175	28.69%	25% - 40%
4	3,086	947	30.69%	30% - 45%
5	2,172	745	34.30%	35% - 50%
6	1,183	545	46.07%	45% - 70%
7	216	122	56.48%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	7,987	2,754	34.48%	

ANGLETON BOARD OFFICE

Cynthia Tauss, Board Member *

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	638	197	30.88%	15% - 35%
3	893	341	38.19%	25% - 40%
4	1,998	575	28.78%	30% - 45%
5	1,273	414	32.52%	35% - 50%
6	876	281	32.08%	45% - 70%
7	186	65	34.95%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	5,864	1,873	31.94%	

Carmella Jones, Board Member **

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	86	41	47.67%	15% - 35%
3	139	96	69.06%	25% - 40%
4	288	144	50.00%	30% - 45%
5	191	72	37.70%	35% - 50%
6	156	94	60.26%	45% - 70%
7	41	32	78.05%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	901	479	53.16%	

Lynn Ruzicka, Parole Commissioner***

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	565	160	28.32%	15% - 35%
3	445	138	31.01%	25% - 40%
4	3,075	744	24.20%	30% - 45%
5	2,542	715	28.13%	35% - 50%
6	1,932	720	37.27%	45% - 70%
7	390	233	59.74%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	8,949	2,710	30.28%	

Ira Evans, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	598	157	26.25%	15% - 35%
3	464	123	26.51%	25% - 40%
4	3,362	704	20.94%	30% - 45%
5	2,687	704	26.20%	35% - 50%
6	2,037	706	34.66%	45% - 70%
7	431	236	54.76%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	9,579	2,630	27.46%	

Gerald Garrett, Parole Commissioner ****

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	43	1	2.33%	15% - 35%
3	31	7	22.58%	25% - 40%
4	334	59	17.66%	30% - 45%
5	303	77	25.41%	35% - 50%
6	219	104	47.49%	45% - 70%
7	58	41	70.69%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	988	289	29.25%	

* Cynthia Tauss served as a Parole Board Member through March 31, 2018.
** Carmella Jones served as a Parole Board Member from July 2, 2018, to August 31, 2018
*** Lynn Ruzicka served as a Parole Commissioner through July 31, 2018.
**** Gerald Garrett served as Parole Commissioner from July 2, 2018, to August 31, 2018.

AUSTIN BOARD OFFICE

Ed Robertson, Board Member

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	754	367	48.67%	15% - 35%
3	1,415	835	59.01%	25% - 40%
4	2,905	1,217	41.89%	30% - 45%
5	1,805	668	37.01%	35% - 50%
6	1,443	704	48.79%	45% - 70%
7	378	254	67.20%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	8,700	4,045	46.49%	

Troy Fox, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	392	136	34.69%	15% - 35%
3	438	155	35.39%	25% - 40%
4	2,685	881	32.81%	30% - 45%
5	2,242	740	33.01%	35% - 50%
6	1,776	832	46.85%	45% - 70%
7	421	300	71.26%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	7,954	3,044	38.27%	

Elvis Hightower, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	322	109	33.85%	15% - 35%
3	364	119	32.69%	25% - 40%
4	2,321	768	33.09%	30% - 45%
5	1,889	752	39.81%	35% - 50%
6	1,465	820	55.97%	45% - 70%
7	376	294	78.19%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	6,737	2,862	42.48%	

GATESVILLE BOARD OFFICE

David Gutiérrez, Chair

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	253	189	74.70%	15% - 35%
3	636	554	87.11%	25% - 40%
4	577	498	86.31%	30% - 45%
5	53	34	64.15%	35% - 50%
6	46	34	73.91%	45% - 70%
7	14	13	92.86%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	1,579	1,322	83.72%	

Lee Anne Eck-Massingill, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	400	124	31.00%	15% - 35%
3	459	142	30.94%	25% - 40%
4	2,899	816	28.15%	30% - 45%
5	2,507	827	32.99%	35% - 50%
6	1,861	867	46.59%	45% - 70%
7	351	247	70.37%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	8,477	3,023	35.66%	

Roel Tejada, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	399	125	31.33%	15% - 35%
3	458	144	31.44%	25% - 40%
4	2,898	809	27.92%	30% - 45%
5	2,501	824	32.95%	35% - 50%
6	1,854	859	46.33%	45% - 70%
7	351	245	69.80%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	8,461	3,006	35.53%	

HUNTSVILLE BOARD OFFICE

Federico Rangel, Board Member

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	1	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	1,215	373	30.70%	15% - 35%
3	1,733	756	43.62%	25% - 40%
4	4,221	1,444	34.21%	30% - 45%
5	2,457	970	39.48%	35% - 50%
6	1,216	661	54.36%	45% - 70%
7	196	152	77.55%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	11,039	4,356	39.46%	

Roy (Tony) Garcia, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	598	116	19.40%	15% - 35%
3	541	131	24.21%	25% - 40%
4	3,274	756	23.09%	30% - 45%
5	2,373	768	32.36%	35% - 50%
6	1,162	521	44.84%	45% - 70%
7	201	149	74.13%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	8,149	2,441	29.95%	

Wanda Saliagas, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	1	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	538	123	22.86%	15% - 35%
3	474	118	24.89%	25% - 40%
4	3,090	605	19.58%	30% - 45%
5	2,149	573	26.66%	35% - 50%
6	1,053	384	36.47%	45% - 70%
7	159	86	54.09%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	7,464	1,889	25.31%	

PALESTINE BOARD OFFICE

Michelle Skymre, Board Member*

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	6	5	83.33%	15% - 35%
3	9	9	100.00%	25% - 40%
4	5	4	80.00%	30% - 45%
5	0	0	0.00%	35% - 50%
6	0	0	0.00%	45% - 70%
7	0	0	0.00%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	20	18	90.00%	

Brian Long, Board Member **

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	783	238	30.40%	15% - 35%
3	1,285	550	42.80%	25% - 40%
4	2,963	866	29.23%	30% - 45%
5	1,939	575	29.65%	35% - 50%
6	1,189	534	44.91%	45% - 70%
7	193	113	58.55%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	8,352	2,876	34.43%	

James Paul Kiel, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	498	96	19.28%	15% - 35%
3	471	113	23.99%	25% - 40%
4	3,055	712	23.31%	30% - 45%
5	2,412	768	31.84%	35% - 50%
6	1,471	764	51.94%	45% - 70%
7	323	267	82.66%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	8,230	2,720	33.05%	

James Hensarling, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	522	109	20.88%	15% - 35%
3	495	138	27.88%	25% - 40%
4	3,182	901	28.32%	30% - 45%
5	2,572	961	37.36%	35% - 50%
6	1,499	854	56.97%	45% - 70%
7	290	256	88.28%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	8,560	3,219	37.61%	

Michelle Skyrme served as a Parole Board Member through July 20, 2017.
** Brian Long served as a Parole Board Member from October 1, 2017, to August 31, 2018.*

SAN ANTONIO BOARD OFFICE

Fred Solis, Board Member

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	1,020	354	34.71%	15% - 35%
3	1,556	723	46.47%	25% - 40%
4	3,668	1,246	33.97%	30% - 45%
5	2,841	804	28.30%	35% - 50%
6	1,505	565	37.54%	45% - 70%
7	246	113	45.93%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	10,836	3,805	35.11%	

Charles Speier, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	527	130	24.67%	15% - 35%
3	481	109	22.66%	25% - 40%
4	3,117	884	28.36%	30% - 45%
5	2,954	1,003	33.95%	35% - 50%
6	1,561	755	48.37%	45% - 70%
7	234	152	64.96%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	8,874	3,033	34.18%	

Anthony Ramirez, Parole Commissioner

LEVEL	CASES CONSIDERED	CASES APPROVED	APPROVAL RATE	RECOMMENDED APPROVAL RATE
1	0	0	0.00%	0% - 20%
2	510	118	23.14%	15% - 35%
3	461	90	19.52%	25% - 40%
4	3,091	683	22.10%	30% - 45%
5	2,865	753	26.28%	35% - 50%
6	1,476	541	36.65%	45% - 70%
7	260	150	57.69%	65% - 100%
TOTAL	8,663	2,335	26.95%	

NOTES
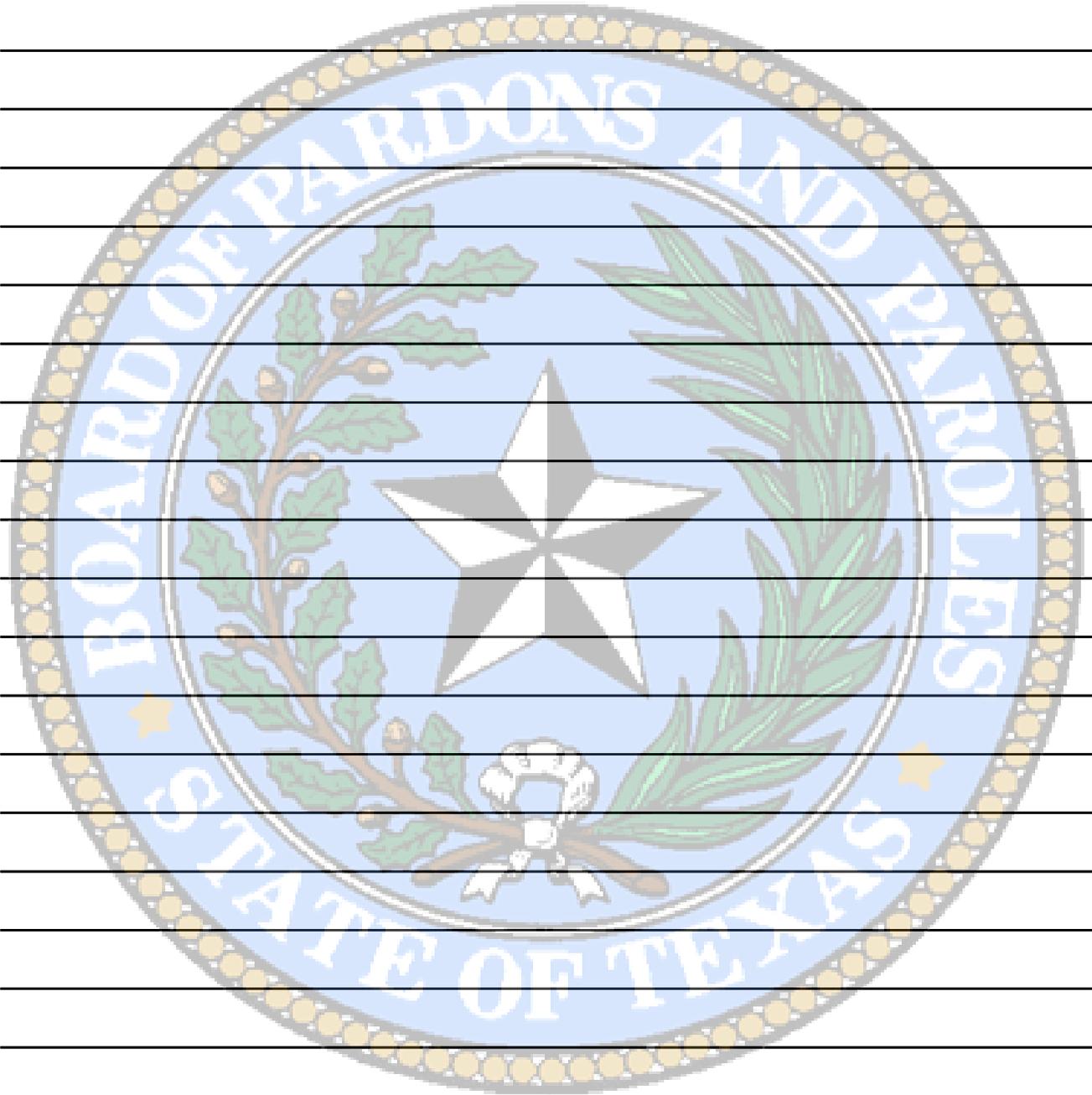
The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles
P. O. Box 13401 • Capitol Station
Austin, Texas • 78711
(512) 406-5452
www.tdcj.state.tx.us/bpp